

Message Text

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15

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07

NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 OES-03 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 ACDA-05 DPW-01 SAJ-01 /128 W

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R 141700Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1386

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, PFOR

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON THE LAWS OF WAR AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1. DURING ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, THE CONFERENCE HAS THUS FAR ADHERED FAIRLY CLOSELY TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE ICRC DRAFT. ONE SIGNIFICANT NEW ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN RAISED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, AND THAT IS THE QUESTION OF PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. USDEL BELIEVES ANY DECISIONS ON THIS SUBJECT CAN BE DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT YEAR, BUT IN VIEW OF PROBABLE INTEREST IN BOTH STATE AND DEFENSE, IT SEEMS CLEARLY DESIRABLE TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THOSE INTERESTED TO THIS RECENT DEVELOPMENT. HEAD OF USDEL (ALDRICH) WILL BE IN DEPARTMENT NEXT WEEK AND WILL BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM WITH INTERESTED OFFICERS. ALDRICH WILL HAND CARRY RELEVANT TEXTS.

2. ESSENCE OF THE RELATIVELY MURKY PROPOSALS THUS FAR PUT FORWARD SEEMS TO BE AN EFFORT TO PROHIBIT BOTH DIRECT ATTACKS ON THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE USE OF MEANS OR METHODS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WARFARE THE EFFECTS OF WHICH MAY BE EXPECTED TO DISTURB THE

STABILITY OF THE ECOSYSTEM TO SUCH A DEGREE AS TO PREJUDICE
THE SURVIVAL OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. WHETHER THOSE ARE
MEANINGFUL STANDARDS AND WHAT THEIR MEANING IS ARE QUESTIONS ON
WHICH USDEL WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE. DALE

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Message Attributes

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